(b) and (c)The recommendation is under consideration.

Financial assistance to Kerala from ADB

691. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has signed agreements with ADB for availing loan;

(b) whether the Central Government are aware of the condition, if any, agreed with for sanctioning financial assistance from ADB;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the conditions agreed to in the ADB discussions will lead the State Government in debt trap and the same would adversely affect the social and economic development of the State in future; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A programme loan for the modernizing Government and Fiscal Reforms in Kerala for an amount of US $200 million was signed between Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 16th December, 2002.

(b) and (c)The stipulations for the programme loan to Kerala relate to implementation of reforms in (i) Public Finances and Financial Management, (ii) Power Sector, (iii) Core Government Functions, (iv) Local Self Government, (v) Poverty Reduction and Minimum Needs Programme, and (vi) State level Public Enterprises.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The programme loan to Kerala is intended to improve the fiscal situation in the State and it is with that objective in view that the State Government has undertaken the programme with this assistance.

Cases registered against defaulting companies

692. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by the Department of Company Affairs against companies for alleged violation of existing rules and regulations during the last four years and other details arising thereof, year-wise;

(b) how many of these cases have been taken up for investigation and other details thereof; and

(c) how many of these cases have been concluded and their outcome and other details arising thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a)

Year	Cases Registered
1998-1999	11,918
1999-2000	10,707
2000-2001	9,187
2001-2002	8,334
1.4.02 to 31.12.02	7,168

(b) and (c)The Department has already approved/ordered investigation or filing of petition before the Company Law Board for ordering of investigation under section 235/237 of the Companies Act, 1956 in respect of 31 entities.

Conversion of US-64 units into tax-free bonds

693. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UTI has given an option to all the holders of US-64 Units to convert their Units into a five year tax-free tradeable bonds; and

(b) it so, the details in this regard together with the details of the benefits (hat would accrue on such conversion?